

## The Times.

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WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 27, 1899.

**DEMOCRACY'S MAXIM.**

A Virginia preacher said in a recent discourse that the old Democratic maxim, that the best governed people are the least governed people, does not apply to the Kingdom of God. Quite true. The Lord, our God, is a jealous God, and His authority is supreme. He makes laws for the government of men, and while every man is a free agent and has the option of choosing his own course, he may not disobey the laws of God with impunity. Those laws are established, and they must be obeyed, or a day of reckoning and retribution will come. God is the Supreme Ruler of the universe, and He governs in all things. His authority extends even into the private life of individuals, and He assumes to make the rule of conduct for all.

But it is a wicked, not to say blasphemous, assumption for any man to assume unto himself any such authority as this. No man has the right to set himself up to be king, to be the autocrat of the universe and to rule others by his will. To assume any such authority is to make himself equal with God. In this country the people are under God, supreme. As a religious nation we recognize the authority of God, and we are willing to obey His laws. But we are not willing to set any one man up as representative of God to make the laws for the people, and to rule them with an iron hand. In a Democratic community all the powers of government are conceded by the people. We make laws, and we appoint men to execute the laws that there may be the greatest liberty consistent with the public weal. We make laws and appoint men to execute the laws, not for the purpose of exalting some individual, but for the purpose of promoting the peace and prosperity and the happiness of the people. To that end Democrats demand that there shall be just as little of restriction laws as is consistent with the principle which we have mentioned. Hence that good old Democratic maxim, the best governed people are the least governed people.

But there are in the world many who are not Democrats. There are those who want a king, and are willing to submit themselves to the king's authority. There is a land in which one man writes the laws for the nation, and his will is law. There are in this land those who call themselves Populists, yet believe that there should be a centralized government, and that all the affairs of business and the private affairs of life should be regulated by those in authority. A blight on all such governments say we. We are for God and Democracy. We acknowledge Him as the Supreme Ruler of the universe, and we are willing that He shall govern in all things. But next to God, in affairs relating to this world, the people are supreme, and it is their high privilege to rule themselves. There is nothing inconsistent with the religion of the Bible in the Democratic doctrine that the best governed people are the least governed people.

**AN OPEN CHINESE DOOR.**

It goes out from Washington that all of the European governments interested have notified our government that they will sign a paper agreeing to respect our treaty right in the ports of China by which we will be guaranteed an "open door" in trading with that country. The advantage of this to our commerce can hardly be over-estimated. We will send to China hundreds of millions of dollars worth of cotton fabrics, and, indeed, of everything else that we manufacture, and it will be a trade that will be always on the increase.

Whether we retain ownership of the Philippine Islands or simply occupy to them the relation of a guardian, our influence there will be dominant, and that will give us an immense advantage in spreading our trade with the Chinese.

It seems pretty clear now that Mr. William J. Bryan is going to peg away at expansion as his principal target in the coming Presidential election, but to our

aid, he had as well sing psalms to a dead horse as to try to get any interest aroused in this country upon that topic with their advantages to our Chinese trade staring the people in the face as a result of our occupation of the Philippines. We expect to see even the Southern States cooling in their ardor for him when he goes amongst them urging an abandonment of the islands. They have a passionate longing for free silver, it is true, but they have also a passionate longing for China as a market for their cotton, and they will not take kindly to any suggestion of depriving them of any part of that market.

Surely Mr. Bryan must feel that he is playing his last trump card, and without the slightest chance of taking the trick. If he does not, all impartial spectators do.

**THE JIM CROW CAR.**

The Times will never advocate any measure which is designed to humiliate the negro race. On the contrary we would exert ourselves to uplift the negro and to help him to be a good citizen. But when the negro becomes a disturbing factor in any relation of life, The Times believes in regulating him. This is a white man's country by virtue of discovery, by virtue of the blood which he shed in securing its independence, by virtue of the energy that the white man has exerted in developing it and making it the greatest land on earth. We will never consent, therefore, that the negro shall be a marplot. We are unwilling that he shall be forever a disturbing element in politics. We are unwilling that the children of the black man shall be educated in the schools which the white man has provided for his own children. We are unwilling that the negro shall force himself upon the whites in any relation of life where his presence is objectionable. More than that, we are quite satisfied that the peace of the nation and the safety of the negro depends upon this complete separation.

The negroes of the South have complained bitterly that the Legislatures of some of the Southern States have enacted laws requiring the railroad companies to have separate cars for whites and blacks. Their complaint is that the "jim crow" car is a reproach to the negro. We would not see the "jim crow" car established for any such purpose, but the negro himself is responsible for it. Those who travel in the South very soon open their eyes to the necessity of such an arrangement. On Saturday last a local train left Richmond for Petersburg. A number of negroes came aboard, and while some of them were respectable and well behaved, quite a number of them were boisterous and rude, and most offensive in their manner. One dirty fellow, half drunk, entered and insisted upon taking a seat by a respectable white woman, who objected to his presence, and quite naturally so. Any man who has the instincts of a gentleman in him would have apologized and sought another seat. But this negro insisted on sitting down. There were white men in the car, and it is not necessary to say that the negro was soon jerked out of his seat and sent to another part of the car. No effort was made to hurt him and nothing was said to him by any white man, although the negro showed ugly temper and was evidently ready for a fight. Had any white man in the car knocked him down, as it was a great temptation to do, there would have been something of a riot on the car, and perhaps women and children would have been hurt, if indeed there had not been bloodshed.

We have let out the secret of the "jim crow" car. Nobody objects to the presence in a railroad car of a decent, respectable negro, whose person is clean, and whose manners are genteel. But that the whites of the South will permit half drunk, indecent negro men to come into a railroad car and force themselves into a seat with a respectable white woman is a proposition that is not to be seriously discussed. If the negro will not behave himself, he cannot expect to be tolerated among genteel people.

**BRITON VS. BRITON.**

There are those who say the Boers beat the British, and when it is argued to the contrary that a powerful nation like Great Britain must eventually conquer, one is led to the war of the American Revolution in which the British lost two armies and were eventually forced to yield.

But two very important things are to be considered. Great Britain is a different nation in many respects from what she was a hundred years ago. She is far more powerful, her resources are a hundredfold greater, and there are not the same complications at home. The British are far stronger in their personnel and in every respect than they were when they attempted to subdue the American colonists. But more important than all this is the fact that in the war of the Revolution it was Briton against Briton, Anglo-Saxon against Anglo-Saxon. It would have been a British victory no matter which side had won. It was a greater British victory that Washington and his raw recruits were able to beat the trained soldiers of the mother country.

In the history of Great Britain she has never been whipped in any war save in her wars with the American people, and if there is a nation in the world to-day that can whip her in anything like a fair fight, it is the nation which Englishmen founded on this side of the Atlantic. The powers of Europe may combine against Great Britain and may take advantage of her war in South Africa to harass her. But unless the combined powers of Europe do interfere the South African war will be the history of every other war which Great Britain has waged within the century.

**CURRENT TOPICS.**

The St. Paul Pioneer Press says that although there has been a pinch in the New York money market, the country at large and especially the West has been wholly free from any disturbance of that character. It declares that money is plentiful in all western business centres. According to this newspaper the banks of St. Paul are in excellent condition with abundant reserves and overflowing deposits, and with more money to lend than they know what to do with. The same is true, it adds, of all the country banks and that the situation in Minnesota is to a

great extent illustrative of that throughout the entire northwest.

There has been no complaint from the South of scarce money. So far as we can judge from the reports in the southern newspapers, money is more plentiful in that section than has been the case for many years past. The fact is that the farmers of the West and the farmers of the South are, for the most part, out of debt, and when they sell their crops they have no need for the money and send their surplus to bank. The whole country is more prosperous than it has been before in many years and the trouble in Wall Street has not given general business any set-back.

The Staunton News says: "We have never seen a more sudden change in sentiment than on the so-called land-grabbers' law. Nearly all the members of the Legislature elected this fall pledged themselves to vote for its repeal. Now they all recognize that the law has been wonderfully successful in doing what it was designed to do, collect the delinquent tax, and they are ready, many of them, to hedge, if they can do so."

"Assurances come from the Legislature that the law will be changed, but an attempt will be made to preserve its efficiency."

The members of the Legislature are sensible men. They see that this law has operated to bring the delinquents to time where all previous laws had failed. They know also that the law has now done its worst, that there are few delinquents to deal with, and that it would be stupid for the Legislature to repeal the law and open the way for another crop of delinquents.

**SOUTHERN NOTES.**

There was another serious fire in Augusta, Ga., on Saturday night by which Berry's big flour mill was destroyed together with a large quantity of grain and flour. The total loss was about \$5,000, partially covered by insurance.

The Southern Railway Company and the Atlantic Coast Line will build a union depot at Columbia, S. C., at a cost of \$100,000. Work will begin at once.

Memorial services were held at the Tabernacle Baptist church of Atlanta on Sunday afternoon in honor of Evangelist Moody. Rev. Sam Jones was the principal speaker.

The city of Annapolis has readjusted its debt of \$288,500 and has issued new bonds at a lower rate of interest to retire the old bonds. The settlement is favorable to the city.

Matthew Gleason, an Irishman, and Alce Logan, an Englishman, engaged in a controversy in Charleston over the Transvaal war. Logan finally went home, got a shot-gun, and returned to the scene of the dispute. Gleason had left, but Logan was bound to have a victim, so he shot and killed another young man of Irish descent, Mike Hogan, by name, who had been in no way connected with the difficulty. Dispensary whiskey was at the bottom of the trouble.

**AFTERMATH.**

It is said that the Democrats in Connecticut will organize anti-Bryan clubs with a view to electing a solid delegation to the national convention in opposition to the Nebraska orator.

George W. Vanderbilt had a Christmas tree for the employees of his estate near Asheville, N. C. Every one, great and small, was remembered with a present.

One of Chicago's great reformers proposes to start an agitation for the curfew ordinance in that city.

The residence of Professor Woodrow Wilson, at Princeton, N. J., took fire on Christmas night, causing much excitement, but Professor Wilson turned fireman and extinguished the flames before much damage was done.

It is said that about 2,500 new pension claims have been filed in Washington on account of the Spanish-American war.

John M. Brown died at the Mercy Hospital, of Chicago, on Sunday, aged one hundred and six years. He had lived at the hospital for nearly twenty years.

**Brother Dickey on Christmas.**

Christmas morn'g ingenuously once a year, but don't stay long enough for folks ter get acquainted.

They say hit is better ter give dan ter receive, but I wants ter put my friends on notice dat I'm 'pnted ter be a receiver 'twelf after Christmas.

De Christmas turkey rook mighty high, but de bressin' er providence, some er us got a mighty long reach.

He dat give ter de po' lends ter de Lawd; but in dat case some folks think dey'll batter wait too long ter git dey money back.

Hit don't take much ter make de world happy; but mos' folks hit it mighty hard ter spare even dat much.—Atlanta Constitution.

**Precedence.**

"Here—y'ad've headed this article wrong."

"What's de matter with it?"

"You call it 'Chicago's Experience With Grand Opera.' It ought to be 'Grand Opera's Experience With Chicago.'—Indianapolis Journal.

**Was it True?**

Janet indignantly—What you you think? Will slawgo told me last night if he had had a chance he would kiss me.

Kitty (sympathetically)—That was real mean of him, wasn't it, when he knew he had a whole chance and you couldn't divide it?—Detroit Free Press.

**So Sudden, but Satisfactory.**

"You take me quite by surprise," she exclaimed, after he had finally put the question.

"Well, I'm glad to get you in any way," he replied, pursuing his advantage.

And she let it go at that.—Philadelphia North American.

**The Way to get a Present You will Like**

"I'd like to get a sealskin cap suitable for a Christmas present for a young man."

"Yes, sir, what size?"

"Well, something that will just about fit me. I—I'm the young man."—Chicago Tribune.

**Satisfactorily Explained.**

"Jane," said the mistress, just a trifle impatiently, "you were a long time coming up here. Didn't you hear me calling?"

"No, ma'am," replied Jane, "not till ye called 'th' third time, ma'am."—Philadelphia Press.

**Of the Canvasback Variety.**

Nell (at the foot-ball game)—"Charlie Dropkick is a perfect fool."

Belie—Yes; a sort of canvasback on the gridiron.—Philadelphia Record.

## FRESH GOSSIP FROM GOTHAM

How New Yorkers Spent the Christmas Holiday.

**A BIG DINNER TO THE POOR.**

Thousands Fed by the Salvation Army.

The Convicts at Sing Sing Have a Minstrel Show—Miss Gould's Charity.

NEW YORK, Dec. 26.—Special.—New York had a gay Christmas in spite of the recent trouble in financial circles. The weather was exhilarating, and the streets were filled with men and women who had the Christmas twinkle in their eye. There were many entertainments of various sorts, but the most notable was a dinner given by the Salvation Army to thousands of poor people at Madison Square Garden. A cooked dinner was served there to four thousand, and uncooked dinners were served in baskets to sixteen thousand families.

More than eighteen thousand pounds of turkey, fifteen thousand pounds of beef and mutton, five thousand plum puddings, four thousand two hundred pies, two thousand pounds of candy, fifty barrels of apples and a liberal supply of other good things were used in preparing these dinners.

The money necessary to this charity was contributed to representatives of the Salvation Army by the public. The Salvation Army has been receiving contributions for several weeks past, and the money was given to them because every contributor knew that it would be through them well spent.

The money was given to the husband in the Tombs on Christmas day, but the visit of his wife was the only Christmas present which he received.

Governor Roosevelt will have many gifts to bestow during the coming year. It is said that he now has fifty vacancies to fill and most of the offices are much sought after.

**MINSTRELSY AT SING SING.**

The inmates of Sing Sing prison enjoyed a Christmas minstrel show yesterday. The performance was given by convicts, and many of the jokes had to do with prison life. After the singing of a pathetic song called "One Little Word," one of the end men said: "That's what brought me here."

"What?"

"One little word."

"What was it?"

"Guilty."

The convicts greatly enjoyed the show. Miss Helen Gould made glad the hearts of the crippled children at Woody Creek. She sent all sorts of appropriate toys to the boys and girls, and at noon a fine dinner was served. Miss Gould was present at the dinner and also at the Christmas tree late in the evening. Miss Gould also made a present to many poor families in the neighborhood.

A negro man had been elected teacher of a white school in Brooklyn, and the teachers of the school are by no means pleased. An effort will be made to have the appointment rescinded. The white teachers are indignant at the appointment, and threaten to resign unless it is recalled.

On Sunday last, in Harlem, a young man took an ice cold bath, and the shock was so great that he died from heart disease.

The Herald says that there will be little, if any, appreciable change in the models of construction of next year's bicycles, but there will probably be a reduction in the weight of the wheel by a general lightening of the frame and the spokes. This information is received by the spokes with the manufacturers of bicycles.

The infant daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius Vanderbilt was christened yesterday afternoon at the house of her parents, No. 66 Fifth avenue.

The ceremony of baptism was performed by the Rev. Dr. J. Wesley Brown, rector of St. Thomas' church. The child was called Grace, after her mother, who was formerly Miss Grace Wilson.

**THE BUFFALO EXPOSITION.**

The Pan-American Exposition to be held in Buffalo in 1901 is being planned on liberal lines, says a New York correspondent. It is to be almost a world's exposition in size, and the buildings are to be very large and beautiful. The site of the exposition covers 50 acres, of which 15 acres are improved park lands. Already the service building has been completed, the grounds fenced in and thousands of shade trees planted. The machinery building, which will be 50 by 250 ft. described by a Buffalo dispatch to the Tribune as being in the style of the Spanish renaissance, and in general composition like the mission buildings found in Mexico and California. These mission buildings were usually in the form of a hollow square, with a gallery along the front. They were one story high, and the roof was a flat terrace and planted with trees, and these characteristics have been followed in the plans for the machinery and transportation building. In order to carry out the similarity the roofs will be of red tile, the walls of cement and the surface will be covered with green paint. The corners of the building will form low pavilions. All the openings will be guarded with metal grill screens like those used in Spain in the sixteenth century.

**Britain and Boer.**

Editor of The Times:

Sir:—In your issue of December 2nd appeared an editorial under the caption "If Britain Should Fall." By your courtesy I will submit to your readers some thoughts suggested by that editorial. You say first, "In spite of the great service which Great Britain rendered the United States in our war with Spain, it is still in this country the part of many a prejudice against the British, and much sympathy has been expressed for the Boers." You do not mean by this that as between the United States and Spain, the United States needed help from any quarter. You doubtless do mean that, but for the attitude of England the other nations of Europe might have combined to prevent the spoliation of their continental neighbor. That England held back the crowd, that the United States might not be molested in her little game of grab, you say further, "The Americans are free liberty, and their natural sympathies are with those who are struggling for it." Yes, some Americans, no doubt a large majority, are built that way. They do sympathize with the Boers, and also with the Philpots.

But with some sympathy runs the other way. They would gladly see the brave and patriotic Boers, struggling so valiantly for their liberties, crushed out of existence, that rapacious England may plant over the Transvaal her imperial flag. Were the Boers a wild nomadic race, falling utterly to the wayside, we should not care. They were they with out God, heathenish, savage and brutal, we might find some excuse for England's invasion of their land.

But the Boers are pre-eminently a Christian people, and have extensively developed the agricultural and mineral resources of their country. They are ardent lovers of liberty. Many years ago they emigrated from Cape Colony to escape the exactions and oppressions of England. They left a land they had adopted and sought a new home in the

wilds of the Transvaal. They placed a wide stretch of wilderness between themselves and their old oppressors. They drove out the savages, went to work with moral resolutions, and, alas! for their peace, grew rich in their new home.

As long as they were poor they were safe from molestation, but as wealth increased the glance of England grew more greedy and baleful. Fifty years ago there was not a man or woman in the United States whose heart would not have gone out in sympathy to the gallant little army of the Boers fighting so valiantly to maintain their independence.

But, again you say, "Some people talk as though they were delighted to see the Boers thrash the British, and precipitate the downfall of the British empire." There can be no doubt of the fact that a majority of the American people would be delighted to see the Boers thrash the British, and precipitate the downfall of the British empire. Good people everywhere will rejoice in the prosperity of that empire in which legitimate enterprise, but no one should sympathize with her when in a career of rapacity and blood-guiltiness she seeks her own aggrandizement at the expense of the weak and helpless.

But to continue, you say, "But sentiment aside, it would be a great deal to see Great Britain as one of the best customers that this country has." But, if you please, Mr. Editor, we will not throw sentiment aside. There are some people who would be delighted to see the nations of the world guided by a lofty sentiment rather than sordid considerations of interests, however great.

I am constrained to wonder how a great newspaper can advocate England's ruthless attack upon the liberties of the Transvaal on the ground that she is a liberal customer of ours.

Once more you say "there is yet a more serious view. The United States and Great Britain represent the great Anglo-Saxon idea, which you say means popular government, individual liberty, etc." What think you the people of the Transvaal and the Philippines would say to this? Have they no rights that the great Anglo-Saxon idea ought to respect?

The fact is, Mr. Editor, the great Anglo-Saxon idea is a pretence, and not a reality. People submitted to Great Britain have been accorded civil or political liberty. Their national independence has been wrested from them and they have been made subservient only to the national interests of the conqueror.

Lastly, you say, "If the British Empire should collapse and her possessions be absorbed by the other great powers on that side of the Atlantic, the United States would stand alone against the antagonism of Europe." What reason have you for the assertion that the other European powers will not stand alone against the United States? Have they no rights that the great Anglo-Saxon idea ought to respect?

The fact is, Mr. Editor, the great Anglo-Saxon idea is a pretence, and not a reality. People submitted to Great Britain have been accorded civil or political liberty. Their national independence has been wrested from them and they have been made subservient only to the national interests of the conqueror.

Mr. Algernon B. Chandler Lectured on This Theme.

BOWLING GREEN, Va., Dec. 26.—Special.—Mr. Algernon B. Chandler, Jr., delivered his lecture on "Woman in History" to a packed house here last night. It was the greatest treat of the season to the people of Bowling Green, a native health, and the reception accorded him was warm and gratifying. The address was chaste and eloquent, and showed an intimate acquaintance with the interesting subject presented. Quite an ovation was accorded the speaker after the lecture, and his effort here easily establishes his reputation as one of the most gifted men on the platform.

**"WOMAN IN HISTORY."**

He traced in a masterful way the influence of woman on the history of the civilized countries, finally bringing his audience back to old America, pointing then in lurid colors the exploits of woman in constructing the splendor of the home republic, and devoting his peroration to the influence of American homes on national life.

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**MURDERER ESCAPED.**

Was Under Sentence to Hang on January 12th.

NORFOLK, Va., Dec. 26.—Special.—Walter Cotton, colored, who was in jail at Portsmouth, awaiting execution, walked off this morning and has not yet been recaptured.

Cotton was to be hanged January 12th, for the murder of Charles Wyatt, white, a store keeper of Portsmouth. He is a desperate negro.

A death watch had been set upon him and while the watcher slept, Cotton escaped. He is believed to have made for the Virginia Military Institute, where he would have been put on the alert, and where he would have followed his trail into the great swamp.

The hounds traced him first to a row, lost, lying at the Seaboard R. R. wharf, were taken in this across the harbor, and took up the scent, on landing at Berkeley.

They are the pack of Hurler's Branch, a locally famous thief-taker.

**PRIMARIES CALLED.**

To Elect a Senator to Succeed the Late Charles E. McCorkle.

LEXINGTON, Va., Dec. 26.—Special.—Mr. Greenlee D. Letcher, chairman of Rockbridge County Democratic Committee, has issued a call for primaries to be held in Rockbridge on Saturday, December 30, 1899, at which delegates will be elected to a county convention to be held at Clifton Forge Thursday, January 4, 1900, for the purpose of nominating a Senator to fill out the unexpired term of the late Senator Charles E. McCorkle. The basis of representation is one delegate for every twenty-five votes cast in the election for Governor Tyler.

Christmas day passed off without any undue excitement. The cadets of the Virginia Military Institute had holiday, which they enjoyed to the fullest. A great many students at Washington and Lee spent the holiday at their homes or with friends out of town.

**DEATHS IN ROANOKE.**

Norfolk and Western Railway to Build a Hospital.

ROANOKE, Va., Dec. 26.—Special.—Mrs. D. Smith, mother of Roy B. Smith and Charles Smith, died last night at the residence of the former, aged sixty-nine years, from heart failure. The remains will be taken to Lynchburg to-morrow for interment.

The remains of Samuel Dillon, a member of Troop H, United States Cavalry at Fort Myers, were brought to this city this morning and taken to the home of his father, William Dillon, where the funeral services will be conducted to-morrow. The young soldier died from the effects of injuries received at Fort Myers.

The Norfolk and Western has come to the rescue of the Roanoke Hospital Association and now the establishment of a hospital is an assured fact. The railway company will at once finish the building, which was partly constructed several years ago.

**FOR REGULAR ATTENDANCE.**

Hon. A. P. Rowe, Mayor of Fredericksburg, is Awarded a Prize.

FREDERICKSBURG, Va., Dec. 26.—At the Christmas celebration by the Sunday school of the Baptist church, Hon. A. P. Rowe, mayor of this city, was awarded a handsome prize for being present at Sunday school every Sunday during the year. Mayor Rowe has received a similar prize every Christmas regularly without a day's absence from Sunday during that period, although he has passed his eighty-second birthday.

**Bowman—Ballantine.**

ROANOKE, Va., Dec. 26.—Special.—David Bowman and Miss Annie Ballantine were married to-night at the residence of the bride's parents on Dale avenue. The ceremony being performed by Rev. James Arbur.

Miss Agnes Bowman was maid of honor and John Armstrong best man. The young couple leave to-morrow on a bridal trip to California. After which they will reside in Roanoke.

**DON'T NEGLECT A COUGH.**

But take Dr. David's Cough Syrup of the Pure Pine Tar, Horchound